

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented) A method of using a portable precast slab as a foundation for industrial equipment, comprising:

providing a portable precast slab that has a top surface, a plurality of side surfaces, a lower surface, a length of at least about 6 feet, a width of at least about 6 feet, and a thickness of at least about 4 inches, wherein said slab is comprised of concrete or cement;

placing the lower surface of the slab on ground;

leveling the slab and/or checking the level of the slab; and

placing at least one piece of industrial equipment on the top surface of the slab

Claim 2 (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of casting reinforcing means into the concrete or cement.

Claim 3 (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a means for attachment, wherein said means is accessible from the top surface or side surface of said slab.

Claim 4 (previously presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein said means for attachment is selected from the group consisting essentially of at least one lift pin, at least one lift ring, at least one lift bolt, an anchor bolt, or a combination thereof.

Claim 5 (previously presented) The method of Claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

attaching a cable to said means for attachment; and

moving the slab.

Claim 6 (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the industrial equipment comprises a bulk storage tank.

Claim 7 (previously presented) The method of Claim 6, further comprising the step of anchoring at least one leg of the bulk storage tank to the slab.

Claim 8 (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of installing fencing around the perimeter of the slab and/or the industrial equipment.

Claim 9 (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

- using a slab that comprises multiple pieces; and
- placing said pieces adjacent to each other to form the slab.

Claim 10 (previously presented) The method of Claim 6, further comprising the step of providing a slab having at least about an 8 foot length by about an 8 foot width area on the top surface adjacent to said tank that is available for liquid oxygen delivery after said bulk storage tank is placed on the top surface of said slab.

Claim 11 (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of using at least a portion of the slab as a splash pad.

Claim 12 (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the industrial equipment comprises at least one cryogenic liquid pump.

Claim 13 (previously presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein the pad is at least about 6 feet to about 10 feet in width, about 15 feet to about 30 feet in length, and about 4 inches to about 10 inches in thickness.

Claim 14 (previously presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein the pad is about 8'8" in width by about 24' in length, and about 8" in thickness.

Claim 15 (previously presented) A portable precast reinforced slab used as a foundation for industrial equipment, comprising:

a precast or premolded slab comprised of concrete or cement, wherein the slab has a top surface, a bottom surface, a plurality of side surfaces, a length, a width, and a thickness;

wherein said thickness is at least about 6 inches to about 24 inches, wherein said length is at least about 6 feet, and wherein said width is at least about 6 feet;

wherein the concrete or cement is reinforced by reinforcing means; and

wherein during use the slab is level or substantially level and is used as a foundation for industrial equipment.

Claim 16 (previously presented) The slab of Claim 15, further comprising means of attachment, wherein said means for attachment is selected from the group consisting essentially of at least one lift pin, at least one lift ring, at least one lift bolt, at least one anchor bolt, and a combination thereof.

Claim 17 (previously presented) The slab of Claim 15, having a plurality of apertures cast into said slab that are visible from the top or side surfaces, wherein said apertures can be used to install fence posts therein.

Claim 18 (previously presented) The slab of Claim 15, having at least one side surface that is shaped and/or sized to interconnect or interface with at least one side surface of another slab.

Claim 19 (previously presented) The slab of Claim 15, wherein a plurality of rebars or rods are used as the reinforcing means and are cast into the concrete or cement, and wherein said rebars or rods are placed parallel to one another and/or in a criss-cross fashion.

Claim 20 (previously presented) The slab of Claim 15, wherein the industrial equipment comprises a bulk storage tank.

Claim 21 (previously presented) The slab of Claim 20, having at least about an 8 foot length by an about 8 foot width area on the top surface adjacent to said tank available for liquid oxygen delivery after the tank is placed upon said slab.

Claim 22 (previously presented) The slab of Claim 19, wherein said rebars or rods are formed into a support frame and wherein said means for attachment is removably or securably attached to said support frame.

Claim 23 (previously presented) A method of making a precast slab that is used as a foundation for at least one bulk storage tank, comprising:

- providing a form;
- at least partially filling the form with concrete or cement;
- placing at least one means for attachment into the concrete or cement;
- filling the form with concrete or cement;
- allowing the concrete or cement to dry and/or cure, thereby forming a slab, wherein the slab has a top surface, a bottom surface, a plurality of side surfaces, a length, a width, and a thickness, and wherein said slab is at least about 6 inches thick to about 24 inches thick; and

removing the slab from the form when the concrete or cement is at least partially dried.

Claim 24 (previously presented) The method of Claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

- casting a plurality of apertures into said slab that are visible from the top surface;
- placing the slab at an industrial site; and
- installing fence posts into the apertures.

Claim 25 (previously presented) The method of Claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

- constructing a slab that comprises more than one piece; and
- providing at least one side surface in said pieces that are shaped so that said pieces are capable of interconnecting or interfacing to form a slab.

Claim 26 (previously presented) The method of Claim 23, further comprising the step of:

- casting reinforcing means into the slab.

Claim 27 (previously presented) The method of Claim 26, further comprising the steps of:

- using a plurality of rebars or rods as the reinforcing means in the slab; and
- placing said rebars or rods placed parallel to one another and/or in a criss-cross fashion.

Claim 28 (previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein said rebars or rods are arranged to form a three-dimensional support structure.

Claim 29 (previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein the rebars or rods are prestressed prior to molding.

Claim 30 (previously presented) The method of Claim 23, wherein slab is dried and/or cured prior to use.

Claim 31 (previously presented) The method of Claim 23, further comprising the step of using concrete or cement of different densities to form said slab.

Claim 32 (previously presented) The method of Claim 26, further comprising the step of making a plurality of furrows in the top surface of said slab to ensure drainage of water from the top surface of said slab.

Claim 33 (previously presented) A method of using a portable precast slab for use as a splash pad for cryogenic liquids, comprising:

providing a portable precast slab comprised of concrete or cement, wherein said slab

has a top surface, a plurality of side surfaces, a lower surface, a length, a width, and a thickness, wherein said length is at least about 6 feet, wherein said width is at least about 6 feet, and wherein said thickness is at least about 2 inches;

placing the lower surface of the slab on ground;

offloading liquid cryogens over or adjacent to said slab; and

using the top surface of the slab to catch at least a portion of the liquid cryogens that splash from the offloading of said cryogens.

Claim 34 (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, further comprising the step of casting reinforcing means into the concrete or cement.

Claim 35 (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, further comprising the step of providing a means for attachment, wherein said means is accessible from the top or side surface of said slab.

Claim 36 (previously presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein said means for attachment is selected from the group consisting essentially of at least one lift pin, at least one lift ring, at least one lift bolt, an anchor bolt, and a combination thereof.

Claim 37 (previously presented) The method of Claim 35, further comprising the steps of:

attaching a cable to said means for attachment; and
moving the slab.

Claim 38 (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, further comprising the steps of:

using a slab that comprises multiple pieces; and
placing said pieces adjacent to each other to form the slab.

Claim 39 (previously presented) A method for providing a portable precast foundation for a bulk storage tank, comprising:

obtaining a portable precast slab that has a top surface, a plurality of side surfaces, a lower surface, a length, a width, and a thickness, wherein said length is between about 6 feet to about 20 feet, wherein said width is about 6 feet to about 12 feet, and wherein said thickness is about 6 inches to about 24 inches;

wherein said slab is comprised of reinforced concrete or cement and wherein said

concrete or cement is reinforced by means selected from the group consisting essentially of wire, rebar, rods, or a combination thereof;

moving said slab to its desired location;

placing the lower surface of the slab on substrate;

leveling the slab and/or checking the level of the slab; and
placing a bulk storage tank upon the top surface of the slab.

Claim 40 (previously presented) The method of Claim 39, further comprising the step of casting a means for attachment into said concrete or cement, wherein said means is accessible from the top or side surface of said slab, and wherein said means is used to move said slab.

Claim 41 (previously presented) The method of Claim 40, wherein said means for attachment is selected from the group consisting essentially of at least one lift pin, at least one lift ring, at least one lift bolt, at least anchor bolt, and a combination thereof.

Claim 42 (previously presented) The method of Claim 40, further comprising the step of anchoring at least a part of the bulk storage tank to the slab.

Claim 43 (previously presented) The method of Claim 40, further comprising the steps of:

casting apertures into said concrete or cement;
installing fence posts into said apertures after the slab is placed upon said ground;
attaching fencing to said fence posts; and
installing fencing around the perimeter of the slab and/or the tank.

Claim 44 (previously presented) The method of Claim 40, further comprising the step using at least a portion of the slab as a splash pad.

Claim 45 (previously presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein the width of said slab is about 10 feet.

Claim 46 (previously presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein the length of said slab is about 12 feet.

Claim 47 (previously presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein the slab is between about 6 inches and 16 inches in thickness.

Claim 48 (previously presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein the slab is about 10' in width, about 15' feet in length, and either about 6" in thickness or about 12" in thickness.

Claim 49 (previously presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein the slab is about 10' in width, about 15' feet in length, and about 16" in thickness.

Claim 50 (new): A method for providing a foundation for industrial equipment, comprising:

lifting a portable precast slab from a delivery vehicle, wherein the slab is comprised of concrete;

moving the lifted slab from the delivery vehicle to a site;

placing a lower surface of the slab onto the site;

placing industrial equipment on the top surface of the slab; and

fluidly coupling the industrial equipment to a facility located remotely from the slab.

Claim 51 (new): The method of Claim 50, wherein placing industrial equipment on the top surface of the slab comprises placing a cryogenic liquid storage tank and a vaporizer on the top surface of the slab, the liquid storage tank being fluidly coupled to the vaporizer.

Claim 52 (new): The method of Claim 50, wherein placing industrial equipment on the top surface of the slab comprises mechanically securing the industrial equipment to the top surface.

Claim 53 (new): The method of Claim 50, wherein the industrial equipment comprises cryogenic equipment.

Claim 54 (new): The method of Claim 50, further comprising, prior to lifting the slab from the delivery vehicle:

placing the slab onto the delivery vehicle; and
transporting the slab to the site.

Claim 55 (new): The method of Claim 54, wherein the slab is placed on the delivery vehicle in response to a customer order, and wherein the slab preexists the customer order.

Claim 56 (new): The method of Claim 50, wherein the site is unimproved earth.

Claim 57 (new): The method of Claim 50, wherein the slab, the equipment and processing materials for the equipment are supplied from a single supplier.

Claim 58 (new): The method of Claim 50, wherein the support surface is part of a permanent structure housing the facility.

Claim 60 (new): The method of Claim 50, wherein lifting the slab is done using a crane.

Claim 61 (new): The method of Claim 50, wherein the slab comprises lift members and wherein lifting the slab comprises coupling a lifting apparatus to the lift members.

Claim 62 (new): The method of Claim 50, further comprising securing the slab against lateral movement with retaining members on the site.

Claim 63 (new): The method of Claim 50, further comprising:

- lifting the slab from the site;
- placing the slab on a retrieval vehicle; and
- transporting the slab on the retrieval vehicle.

Claim 64 (new): The method of Claim 63, wherein transporting the slab comprises:

- transporting the slab to another site;
- moving the lifted slab from the retrieval vehicle to the other site;
- placing the lower surface of the slab onto the other site;
- placing industrial equipment on the top surface of the slab; and
- fluidly coupling the industrial equipment to another facility located remotely from the slab.

Claim 65 (new): The method of Claim 63, further comprising, prior to lifting the slab from the site:

- removing the industrial equipment from the slab.